



NEWSLETTER
February 2011

This newsletter is intended to provide a recap of some of the healthy homes and lead-based paint information that we have shared in the IHHN meetings or that has come to us through various Listservs. We want to especially acknowledge the National Center for Healthy Homes and the many content providers on LeadNet and HealthyHomesNet.

NEXT MEETING OF THE IDAHO HEALTHY HOMES NETWORK

Thursday, February 10th

10:00 a.m. to noon

The guest speaker will be Leanne Simmons, Executive Director of [Idaho Voices for Children](#).

HUD GRANT AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

This announcement includes the lead hazard control, lead demo, and the healthy homes production grants.

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/press/press_releases_media_advisories/2011/HUDNo.11-004

EPA'S CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

EPA's Office of Children's Health Protection is pleased to announce the release of a solicitation for grant proposals to address children's environmental health in underserved communities by building capacity for these communities to reduce environmental exposures in child-occupied settings (e.g. homes, schools and child care centers). Funds available for award are expected to total approximately \$1.5 million, and EPA intends to award approximately 15-20 awards, each for an amount not to exceed \$100,000. The due date for initial proposals is February 18, 2011. For complete information regarding this Request for Initial Proposals, visit <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oceph/ochpweb.nsf/content/grants.htm>.

EPA OFFERS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE VIA SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BUILDING BLOCKS PROGRAM

The EPA announced the formation of Sustainable Communities Building Blocks, a program designed to help interested communities adopt sustainable planning methods. Sustainable planning helps safeguard the environment and spur economic development while also improving Americans' health. Interested communities are invited to apply to receive technical assistance during a day-long session that will help them achieve their sustainable planning goals. The application period opens on February 3 and ends on February 23, 2011. For more information and submission instructions for the Sustainable Communities Building Blocks Program visit <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/buildingblocks.htm>.

EPA SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY GRANTS

EPA is making approximately \$2 million available in 2011 to reduce pollution at the local level through the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. CARE is a community-based program that works with county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities to help the public understand and reduce toxic risks from numerous sources. Applications for the CARE

assistance agreements are due by March 22, 2011. EPA will conduct three Webcasts to answer questions from prospective applicants about the application process on 2/8, 2/23, and 3/2. For more information about the CARE assistance agreements visit <http://www.epa.gov/care/>.

EPA SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR \$1.2 MILLION IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANTS TO ADDRESS LOCAL HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The EPA is accepting grant applications for \$1.2 million in funding to support projects designed to research, educate, empower and enable communities to understand and address local health and environmental issues. Eligible applicants from non-profit, faith-based and tribal organizations working in the community of the proposed project are encouraged to apply. Environmental Justice Small Grants funding is available for two categories of projects:

- 40 grants of up to \$25,000 each to support projects that address a community's local environmental issues through collaborative partnerships, and;
- Four grants of up to \$50,000 each to gather better science on the environmental and health impacts of exposure to multiple sources of pollution in communities.

Applications are due March 31, 2011. For more information on eligibility and how to apply visit <http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources/publications/grants/ej-smgrants-rfp-2011.pdf>. For more information on the Environmental Justice Small Grant program visit <http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-smgrants.html>.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS NEWS

If you're interested in Healthy Schools News, contact pollow.george@epa.gov to be added or removed from the distribution list. The current issue has information about upcoming funding opportunities, cleaning for healthy and safe schools, and news regarding EPA's draft school siting guidance.



FLUSHING OUT LEAD, METALS WITH CHELATION THERAPY

Katie has dangerously high levels of lead in her blood. She's a fast-moving first grader with copper-colored hair. Katie has bright brown eyes, but has trouble making eye contact. She also has autism – and she doesn't really speak.

<http://www.npr.org/2011/01/03/132474747/flushing-out-lead-metals-with-chelation-therapy>

FROM A LEADNET POSTING

I just had my home painted, which is post '78. But our painter was talking with me and mentioned that he just got results back from his doctor that he needs to go on blood pressure medication. He is Lead Poisoned and this has caused his high blood pressure. It took the Doctor weeks to figure out why his BP is too high and finally determined it was the lead. My painter is now going to go through chelation to help drop his levels and see if that helps his blood pressure.

Funny part is my painter says he only works on newer homes and hardly ever gets into old homes, but I noted to him that he does paint a lot of commercial type work. Needless to say he signed up for one of our RRP classes.

OSHA CITES FIRMS FOR FAILING TO PROTECT EMPLOYEES FROM LEAD EXPOSURE

Plethora of violations nets over \$2 million in proposed fines...may be one for the record books!

<http://www.reliableplant.com/Read/28349/OSHA-cites-Miami-firm>

SECONDHAND BUILDING COMPONENTS CAN BE A LEAD DANGER!

http://blog.oregonlive.com/pdxgreen/2011/01/in_portland_the_city_that_love.html



LEAD FOUND IN DISNEY-LICENSED SHOPPING BAGS

Tampa Disney finds reusable shopping bags with its name on it may be tainted with lead.

<http://bit.ly/dXVmOz>

TESTS FIND HIGH LEVELS OF LEAD IN REUSEABLE BAGS

Twenty-one reusable bags sold as alternatives to disposable plastic or paper bags had dangerous levels of lead, according to new test results.

http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/retail/2011-01-23-reusable-bags_N.htm



HIGHLIGHTING RADONS RISKS

In case you missed it, January was National Radon Action Month. The EPA and other federal agencies hit the airwaves to tell us that radon gas can kill.

<http://www.npr.org/2011/01/14/132914377/in-highlighting-radons-risks-context-needed>



A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO RADON

<http://www.epa.gov/radon/pubs/citguide.html>

SECOND HAND SMOKE EXPOSURE RAISES KINDERGARTNERS' BLOOD PRESSURE

It's no secret that second hand smoke poses serious health hazards, but the damage can be especially insidious among children, setting them up for possible heart disease later in life.

<http://bit.ly/eohpep>



SMOKING CAUSES GENE DAMAGE IN MINUTES

Those first few puffs on a cigarette can within minutes cause genetic damage linked to cancer, US scientists said in a study released Saturday. The study is the first on humans to track how substances in tobacco cause DNA damage. <http://bit.ly/hjKR90>

EVIDENCE SUGGESTS ROLE FOR CHEMICALS IN DIABETES

Evidence strongly suggests that some chemicals, especially chemicals in cigarette smoke, might cause some cases of diabetes and obesity, U.S. government researchers say. <http://reut.rs/hiND7b>

DIET MAY MITIGATE TOXIC EFFECTS OF ARSENIC

People drinking water naturally contaminated with high levels of arsenic may benefit from eating more radishes, sweet potatoes and other similar plants, a new study finds.

<http://on.msnbc.com/ertxy6>

THE LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE FIREPLACE COOLS

Among those who aspire to be environmentally responsible, it is joining the ranks of bottled water and big houses.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/20/garden/20fire.html?_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss



NEW MOLD REPORT

http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/indoors/air/mold/task_force/docs/final_toxic_mold_task_for_ce_report.pdf

EXAMINING MOISTURE IN HOMES

<http://www.huduser.org/portal/publications/oth/internalmoistureload.html>

SCENTED PRODUCTS EMIT A BOUQUET OF VOCs

A single fragrance in a product can contain a mixture of hundreds of chemicals, some of which (e.g., limonene, a citrus scent) react with ozone in ambient air to form dangerous secondary pollutants, including formaldehyde. The researchers detected 133 different VOCs. Most commonly detected were limonene, α - and β -pinene (pine scents), and ethanol and acetone (often used as carriers for fragrance chemicals) and colleagues found the average number of VOCs emitted was 17. Each product emitted 1-8 toxic or hazardous chemicals, and close to half (44%) generated at least 1 of 24 carcinogenic hazardous air pollutants.

<http://ehp03.niehs.nih.gov/article/fetchArticle.action;jsessionid=0432C2090898367F87E2D08F334D4636?articleURI=info%3Adoi%2F10.1289%2Fehp.119-a16>

ENDOCRINE DISRUPTORS

From the carpets in our living rooms to the liners of our canned goods we're exposed to manmade chemicals every day. They eventually make their way from our farms, households or industry into the environment – and into our bodies. And they may be affecting our reproductive health.

<http://bit.ly/hPOI4Z>

TOXICS FOUND IN PREGNANT U.S. WOMEN

Multiple chemicals, including some banned since the 1970s and others used in items such as nonstick cookware, furniture, processed foods and beauty products, were found in the blood and urine of pregnant U.S. women, according to a UCSF study.

<http://bit.ly/guimRo> and <http://bit.ly/h1DITO>

NEW RESEARCH ON PCB

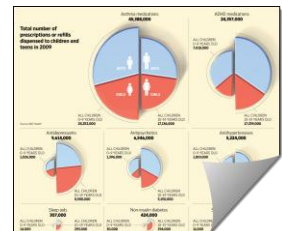
New findings show that PCBs at low levels could increase blood pressure in healthy people. The associations between hypertension and PCBs persisted even after accounting for important risk factors such as age, body mass index, gender, race, smoking and exercise.

<http://bit.ly/fzGk71>

SO YOUNG AND SO MANY PILLS

More than 25% of kids and teens in the U.S. take prescriptions on a regular basis. Researchers attribute the wide usage in part to doctors and parents becoming more aware of drugs as an option for kids. Unhealthy diets and lack of exercise among children also fuel the use of some treatments.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203731004576046073896475588.html>



GUIDELINES FOR MANAGING FOOD ALLERGIES

<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/topics/foodAllergy/clinical/Pages/default.aspx>

OSHA SAFETY FEST

Safety Fest offers free safety training for construction and general industry, professional technical educators, any business required to follow OSHA standards, and anyone who desires to improve the safety performance of their business.

- Post Fall, ID on February 22-24
<http://www.safetyfest-northernidaho.org/>
- Southern Idaho, March 22-25, 2011
<http://www.safetyfest-southernidaho.org>

- Eastern Idaho, April 26 - 29, 2011
<http://www.safetyfest-easternidaho.org>



3RD ANNUAL NW ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE—FEB 11, 2011
Portland State University, Smith Memorial Student Union

Topics will include: Environmental Justice, Community Health, Healthy Aging, Green Chemistry, Built Environment, Chemical Policy, and Food Systems.

All are invited to attend, particularly Allopathic and Naturopathic Health Practitioners, Public Health Professionals, Advocates, Researchers, Urban and Regional Planners and Students.

Registration opening soon! For more information, please visit
http://www.oeonline.org/3rd_nwehc or email nwehc@oeonline.org.

2011 NATIONAL HEALTHY HOMES CONFERENCE – JUNE 20-23 IN DENVER

It's never too early to start planning!!

<http://www.healthyhomesconference.org/>



OTHER LINKS:

Idaho Healthy Homes Network - <http://www.hud.gov/local/id/library/healthyhomes/IHHN.cfm>

Subscribe the Healthy Homes Network Listserv-

http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/signup.cfm?listname=Idaho%20Healthy%20Homes%20Network&list=ID_AHO-HH-NETWORK-L

HUD's Office of Health Homes and Lead Hazard Control - <http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/>

EPA – www.epa.gov/lead

RRP Outreach materials – www.epa.gov/getleadsafe

EPA TIPS AND COMPLAINTS FORM --

<http://www.epa.gov/region1/enforcement/leadpaint/RenovationRepairPaintComplaintForm.html>

EPA Lead-Safe Certification Program Outreach to Consumers --

<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/lead/pubs/lscp-consumers.htm>

OSHA – www.osha.gov

National Center for Healthy Housing - <http://www.nchh.org/Home.aspx>

Alliance for Healthy Homes - www.afhh.org

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission; Product Recalls -

<http://cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prerel.html>

LeadNet – international listserv on lead and lead poisoning; to subscribe - Leadnet-on@mail-list.com

To search LeadNet Archives - <http://archive.mail-list.com/leadnet>

User Name = leadnet

Password = lswp (The User Name and Password are case-sensitive.)

For parents of a lead-poisoned child: www.alphalead.org

Tamara Rubin's (Portland, OR) website: <http://www.mychildrenhaveleadpoisoning.com>